Edwards Secures \$381,000 to Modernize Glen Rose Medical Center

(WASHINGTON) – U.S. Representative Chet Edwards announced that efforts to renovate and modernize the Glen Rose Medical Center will be bolstered by \$381,000 he has included in the final 2009 Appropriations bill, which passed the House today by a vote of 245 to 178.

"Modernizing the Glen Rose Medical Center emergency room will mean improved health care for area families, and improved economic development for Somervell County," said Edwards, a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee. "I am pleased that the Congress approved my request to continue the important renovations underway at the Glen Rose Medical Center, and I especially want to commend local leaders for recommending this high priority project to me."

This funding will help renovate the emergency room of the hospital. The ER facility has seen patient visits nearly triple since the last renovation, which took place over a decade ago. This project will add floor space to the x-ray laboratory and to the emergency area to accommodate the growth in outpatient services. The \$381,000 in federal funds follows \$321,000 Edwards secured in 2008 to begin hospital renovations.

After hearing about the funding Gary Marks, the Glen Rose Medical Center CEO, said "Now that we have our construction well underway the biggest priority we have is to upgrade our current technology in the E/R and support areas. In order to continue to serve the public, Medical Centers must upgrade their equipment. Everyday we see new advances in technology that can extend a rural medical center's ability to better serve its population. This funding will be of great support for our continued endeavors as we upgrade our technology."

Edwards concluded, "The Glen Rose Medical Center provides quality health care for thousands of area families, and I will continue to work with local leaders to support this great community asset."